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Lab Laurels
April 2004

Sensor Materials experts earn 'Star Team Award'

by Pete Meltzer Jr., Materials and Manufacturing Directorate

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — A team of researchers at the Air Force Research Laboratory's Materials and Manufacturing Directorate have been presented an Air Force Office of Scientific Research "Star Team" Award for outstanding contributions to science, the Air Force, and national defense.

The award is presented annually to teams of scientists, engineers and technicians who have achieved world-class status and sustained excellence in their chosen research areas.

ML's award-winning team, led by Dr. Gail J. Brown of the Survivability and Sensor Materials Division, was recognized for cutting edge research on materials for next generation infrared sensing, advancements in computational modeling, and initial testing of new material systems.

The Star Team Award fosters excellence throughout the research community and highlights the essential role of basic research within the Air Force's broad technology spectrum. Dr. Brown's research team is comprised of government scientists, on-site contractors and visiting scientists. They include government Air Force scientists: Dr. William Mitchel, Dr. Kenneth Hopkins, Dr. Jonathan Goldstein, Dr. David Zelmon, Dr. Kurt Eyink, Dr. Nils Fernelius, David Tomich and Shanee Houston; (on-site contractors) Dr. Frank Szmulowicz, Dr. Shrikishna Hegde, Steven Smith, James Solomon, Steven Fenstermaker, Larry Grazulis, Robert Bertke, Dan Shallenberger and Gerald Landis; and (visiting scientists) Dr. Krisnamurthy Mahalingam, Dr. Heather Haugan, Dr. T. Walter Haas, Dr. Said Elhamri and Dr. Andrew Evwaraye.

Dr. Brown and her team support the Sensor Materials Branch, which is responsible for providing the Air Force with advances in the operational capabilities of electronic, optical and electro-optical devices and systems for aircraft, missile and space applications. Their research addresses and investigates semiconducting materials for microwave and microelectronic applications, infrared detector materials for strategic and tactical applications, and nonlinear optical materials for laser sources and opto-electronics.

The team's selection for a Star Team Award recognizes group and individual achievement, and highlights the vital contributions of the Air Force Research Laboratory to national defense. @